

**Vermont Library Association**  
Durick Library, St. Michael's College, Colchester  
January 11, 2017

**Voting Members Present:** Margaret Woodruff, Joy Worland (remotely), Virgil Fuller (remotely), Kelly McCagg, Angela Bernard, Beth Dietrich, Nancy Mark , Stacey Knight, Ian Gauthier, Kelly McElligott, Shara McCaffery (remotely), Toni Josey

**Non-voting Members Present:** Adam Bortz, Jennifer Murray, Marty Reid, April Shaw

**The meeting was called to order by Margaret at 10:05am.**

**MOTION:** Toni Josey made a motion seconded by Bethany Dietrich

**TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PREPARED BY KELLY McCAGG**

**YES: 11**

**NO: 0**

**ABSTAIN: 0**

**MOTION:** Toni Josey made a motion seconded by Angela Bernard

**TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 16<sup>th</sup> AS PREPARED BY KELLY McCAGG**

**YES: 11**

**NO: 0**

**ABSTAIN: 0**

**OFFICER'S REPORTS**

**President:** Margaret reported that the Vermont Library Association is now officially filed as a non-profit 501(c)3 organization with the IRS and as a Vermont Domestic Non-Profit Corporation with the Vermont Secretary of State's office. We have a new EIN to use for any grant or tax purposes. Please contact the Treasurer if you need that information.

**Vice President:** Joy has no report at this time.

**Past-President:** Virgil has no report at this time.

**Treasurer:** Please see the attachment for Angela's report.

**Secretary:** Kelly thanks everyone who responded to Margaret's request for reports, even those who stated that they have no report at this time.

**SECTION & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**College & Special Libraries Section:** Bethany has no report at this time.

**Public Libraries Section:** Christine has no report at this time.

**Technical Services Section:** Stacey has no report at this time.

**Friends & Trustees Section:** Nancy has no report at this time.

**Youth Librarians Section:** Ian has no report at this time.

**Awards Committee:** Lisa has no report at this time.

**Department of Libraries:** Please see the attachment for Marty's report.

**Government Relations Committee:** This committee is in need of new chairperson.

**Inclusion Committee:** Amanda has no report at this time.

**Intellectual Freedom Committee:** Ray has no report at this time.

**Membership & Outreach Committee:** Kelly McElligott reported that she has taken a job at Bywater Solutions and would happily relinquish her chair to any interested individual, as she is not sure she will have the time necessary to fulfill her duties.

**Personnel Committee:** Shara has no report at this time.

**Scholarship Committee:** April reported that the VLA Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the VLA Graduate Student Scholarship has been awarded to two recipients. Abbey Pasquence, Burlington High School Library, and Sarah Paige, Bailey/Howe Library, will both receive a \$750 scholarship towards their MLIS programs. Abbey's ambition to continue her education and develop her library into one of the best came through clearly in her application. She has displayed a remarkable ability to connect with the community at her library and has ambitious and excellent goals for the future. We look forward to seeing her accomplish them! Sarah's dedication to the library profession and her professional growth was displayed throughout her application. We agree with her reference letters that she "has a bright future in the world of academic librarianship."

Once pictures of the winners are received, April will send an announcement on the VTLIBRARIES listserv and create a post for the VLA website. She is also working on updating the Scholarship Committee section of the VLA website so that information about the grants and scholarships are available at all times.

The committee is also hoping to have a table for a raffle at NELA next year to raise funds for the Continuing Ed. Grants and the Graduate student scholarship.

**Conference Committee:** Toni reported that the the VLC Committee met December 1. Sponsorship levels and pricing for exhibit hall tables are close to finalization. All levels of sponsorship will include exhibitor benefits (notably a table and registration for one).

We calculated potential revenue from exhibitors and sponsors to gauge how much we might reduce the registration fee for the unconference, and we used the VLC 2016 evaluation and results of the recent vendor survey replies to create a list of potential sponsors and exhibitors. The deadline for sponsorship/exhibitor payments would fall prior to registration so that we can give attendees the lowest possible rates.

Traci and Toni attended a NELA conference planning call on Friday 12/9 regarding the October 2017 conference.

Our next meeting will be January 5 with final decisions on exhibitor/sponsor rates and a focus on registration procedure and program planning.

**American Library Association Councilor:** Amy sends greetings from Maine! She is preparing to head to ALA Midwinter from January 20-24, and will send a full report to the Board in late January. If anyone needs to contact her, please use her personal account, [awisehart@gmail.com](mailto:awisehart@gmail.com).

**New England Library Association Representative:** Karson reported that the NELA Board met November 18—it was an orientation and goal-setting meeting.

Applications open in January for NELLs, which will be August 14-18, 2017 at the Rolling Ridge Conference and Retreat Center in North Andover, MA. Prices will likely increase for NELLs as the facility has been renovated. An idea to consider for future VLA budgets: MA Library Association includes NELLs in its budget each year to offset the impact during NELLs years (every other year).

A small group of NELA board members is investigating holding a Diversity Summit similar to the Advocacy Summit held July 2016. Suggestions are welcome. Another group of NELA board members is investigating holding a Presentation Boot Camp to assist librarians in developing presentation skills.

NELA's Expectations:

- NELA will be doing more NELLs follow-up: past NELLs attendees will be asked to support NELA.
- NELA is looking to maintain and grow the organization; it's looking for emerging leaders.
- NELA appointed liaisons to sections and committees (Krista McLeod is state reps liaison) to encourage and support the work of sections/committees.

- NELA wants to develop relationships with member states. During my time as VLA/NELA representative, I've shared feedback with the NELA board about the challenges of increasing Vermonters' participation in NELA.
- Karson suggested events be joint sponsored by VLA and NELA. If NELA's goal is in-person contact and greater membership activity the best way for NELA to demonstrate its value is through VLA. Events should build on the good work VLA does with annual conference and section programs: events should educate people, empower them with time-saving strategies and solid networking opportunities, and feed them, of course (i.e. – disrupt routines as little as possible, make travel easier by being generous with food and set up a communication network to encourage carpooling)
- NELA state representatives discussed hosting lunch and learns (instead of evening meet ups) and events crossing state borders hosted with partner states.
- For a normal VLC year (2017 is not), NELA (and maybe a bordering state) could help host a pre-conference program and/or provide overnight accommodations assistance?
- President Mary Danko proposed a new Executive Board Meeting schedule--in person quarterly with online meetings in between (online option will be available for those who cannot attend in-person meetings, but attendance is encouraged).
  - JAN 20, 2017 - in person (10 AM - 2 PM, Lunch Provided)
  - MARCH 31 - Online (10 AM - 11 AM)
  - MAY 19 - In person (10 AM - 2 PM, Lunch Provided)
  - JULY 21- Online (10 AM - 11AM)
  - SEPT 15-In person (10 AM - 2 PM, Lunch Provided)
  - NOV 17- In person (10 AM - 2 PM, Lunch Provided)

Please also consider if you or anyone you know would be interested in serving as the VLA representative to NELA. Karson's term will end May 2017.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

***Government relations committee:*** Shara reported that the committee tried to meet in early December but schedules were too full. She is working on scheduling a meeting as soon as possible. The committee is working on getting Engage up and moving. They are still looking for a new chair or co-chair.

***Developing communication tools for committees:*** Kelly asked that individuals complete their own membership forms so that they can sign up to volunteer for specific committees (as opposed to directors completing the forms for their entire staff). We need to make sure we are getting back to people who show interest. Margaret wonders if there is a tool to facilitate this process

**ACTION ITEM:** Virgil will send out a list of who is serving on each committee.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Conference update:** Please see the attachment for Toni's report. Toni also reported that the NELA board will be meeting this month and will discuss whether or not all VLA members are able to attend the conference at the NELA membership rate. NELA representatives have scheduled a walk-through of the Sheraton with Toni and Margaret for next month. Further information about sponsorship levels is included on the conference website.

Christine Porter joined the meeting at 10:58am.

There will be further discussion on how to verify that people registering as members are in fact current members.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

Jennifer reported on the project the Public Library section is working on. There has been a push to emphasize the services we already provide. In this vein, a small committee has been created to facilitate the use of book discussion sets. Committee members include Debbie Landauer, Susan Bliss, and Shelly are working on this project.

**Committee Openings:** Margaret reported that the following committees have openings

- ALA Councilor: Amy Wisehart is leaving, Charlotte Gerstein (Castleton University) is taking over as interim
- Membership: Kelly McElligott accepted a position at Bywater and may need a replacement depending on time commitments
- Government Relations Committee: Selene Colburn was elected to the state legislature

Nancy introduced Adam Bortz as the new Vice President of the Friends & Trustees section.

**Future Meeting:** March 8, 2017 at Aldrich Public Library, Barre, VT

The meeting adjourned at 11:37 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kelly L. McCagg  
VLA Secretary